

Message Text

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SUBJECT: RADIATION PROTECTION R&D BY THE EC

REF: TELECON JAFFE/PURPLE, MARCH 9, 1978

1. THIS IS IN RESPONSE TO REQUEST BY DR. HAROLD JAFFE,
DOE/IA, FOR INFORMATION ON EC R&D PROGRAMS ON RADIOBIOLOGY.

2. THE EC COMMISSION IS NOW MID-WAY THROUGH ITS THIRD
FIVE-YEAR R&D PROGRAM ON RADIATION PROTECTION. THE CURRENT
PROGRAM RUNS FROM 1976 THROUGH 1980, WITH EC COUNCIL
APPROVAL TO SPEND ABOUT \$47 MILLION. MOST OF THE WORK IS
ADMINISTERED BY CONTRACT FROM THE COMMISSION AND IS ON A
COST-SHARED BASIS (THE COMMISSION'S SHARE HAS AVERAGED
31 PERCENT). THE OVERALL VALUE OF THE WORK IN 1977 WAS
ABOUT \$20 MILLION WHICH REPRESENTS ABOUT 25 PERCENT OF THE
SUM OF ALL EC MEMBER STATE NATIONAL R&D PROGRAMS ON THIS
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SUBJECT IN 1977.

3. IT IS A LARGE PROGRAM. THERE ARE 122 CONTRACTS
(INVOLVING OVER 230 PROJECTS), WITH THE AVERAGE TOTAL VALUE
OF EACH CONTRACT BEING ABOUT \$750,000. THE OVERALL PRO-
GRAM AMOUNTS TO 270 MAN YEARS PER YEAR (SINCE SOME PROJECTS
INCLUDE PART-TIME WORK, THERE ARE ABOUT 500 SCIENTISTS

INVOLVED). CONTRACTS HAVE BEEN LET WITH UNIVERSITIES (49 CONTRACTS), NATIONAL RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS AND RADIOBIOLOGICAL INSTITUTES OF NUCLEAR CENTERS (57 CONTRACTS) AND WITH OTHER SCIENTIFIC ORGANIZATIONS (16 CONTRACTS).

4. THE COMMISSION HAS A SMALL RESEARCH UNIT LOCATED AT ISPRA (BUT NOT ORGANIZATIONALLY A PART OF THE JOINT RESEARCH CENTER) DOING WORK IN BIOMEDICAL RADIOLOGICAL RESEARCH. THIS UNIT IS COMPOSED OF SIX SCIENTISTS AND NINE TECHNICIANS. IN ADDITION, THE COMMISSION HAS SCIENTISTS (ABOUT 24) WHO ARE COMMISSION EMPLOYEES WORKING FULL-TIME AT SOME OF THE CONTRACTOR ORGANIZATIONS ON EC PROJECTS.

5. THE PROGRAM IS DESCRIBED IN TERMS OF SIX RESEARCH AREAS: (1) DOSIMETRY (11 PERCENT); (2) RADIATION CONTAMINATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT (20.5 PERCENT); (3) HEREDITARY EFFECTS (30.5 PERCENT); (4) SHORT-TERM EFFECTS (10 PERCENT); (5) LONG-TERM EFFECTS (21 PERCENT); AND (6) EVALUATION OF RADIATION RISKS (7 PERCENT). PERCENTAGES SHOWN ARE THE PERCENTAGES OF TOTAL EXPENDITURES FOR THE ENTIRE PROGRAM.

6. THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE BEING MAILED SEPARATELY TO DR. HAROLD JAFFE, DOE/IA: (1) CATALOG OF CONTRACTS 1977, GIVING A ONE-PAGE SUMMARY FOR EACH OF THE 122 CONTRACTS; (2) REPORT ON THE RADIATION PROTECTION PROGRAM, THE UNCLASSIFIED

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DECEMBER 1977 REPORT BY THE COMMISSION TO THE COUNCIL GIVING A SUMMARY OVERVIEW OF THE RESULTS OF THE FIRST TWO YEARS OF THE CURRENT PROGRAM; (3) EXCERPT FROM THE 1975 COMMISSION PROPOSAL FOR THE PROGRAM THAT GIVES A FULLER DESCRIPTION OF THE SIX RESEARCH AREAS LISTED IN THE PRECEDING PARAGRAPH; (4) ANNUAL REPORT 1976, OVER 600 PAGES, GIVING TECHNICAL DETAILS FOR EACH THEN-CURRENT CONTRACT. THE 1977 ANNUAL REPORT WILL BE PUBLISHED IN ABOUT ONE MONTH; (5) TWO TECHNICAL MONOGRAPHS PUBLISHED BY THE COMMISSION THAT ARE ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE TYPE OF WORK (AND ITS DISSEMINATION) BEING CARRIED OUT UNDER THE PROGRAM; AND (6) EC ANNOUNCEMENT OF SYMPOSIUM ON MICRODOSIMETRY TO BE HELD IN BRUSSELS IN MAY 1978, INCLUDING A LIST OF PARTICIPANTS MARKED TO SHOW U.S. PARTICIPANTS.

7. DR. GUNTHER SCHUSTER, EC DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR RESEARCH, SCIENCE, AND EDUCATION, HAS AGREED THAT THIS EC PROGRAM IS A PROPER TOPIC TO BE INCLUDED IN THE ONGOING SEARCH FOR POSSIBLE U.S.-EC COOPERATION UNDER THE TOPIC "ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS OF ENERGY SOURCES." HE IS ALSO AGREEABLE TO A JOINT MEETING OF APPROPRIATE EXPERTS IF REVIEW BY DOE OF THE EC PROGRAM IDENTIFIES AREAS OF INTEREST. TO THIS END,

IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF DOE WOULD FURNISH TO MISSION SIMI-
LAR PROGRAMMATIC INFORMATION FOR EC REVIEW. ALSO, PLEASE
ADVISE IF FURTHER INFORMATION IS NEEDED. MORRIS

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